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**INSIDE:** NEWS, 2 | SPORTS, 3 | OPINION, 4 | LIFE!, 6 | HIGH 68° LOW 46°

page designed and edited by REBECCA STEPHENS stephens107@marshall.edu

# PARIHH WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2013 | VOL. 117 NO. 60 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com

# City finalizes development plan for the future of Huntington

#### **By GEOFFREY FOSTER** THE PARTHENON

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Plan 2025 is a comprehensive plan for Huntington's there were a lot more opporfuture that focuses on the city's physical development and infrastructure. The plan was designed by the Department of Development and Planning.

City Planner Breanna Shell said the opinions and insights of Huntington's residents were

plan's formation.

"We knew early on that August 2011. tunities for public engagement we had over 500 people get than a typical public hearing at involved and over 20 pub-City Hall," Shell said. "What we lic events, 13 of which were wanted to do was go to where neighborhood associations. people were. We hoped that The rest were community would produce a result that outreach events such as the captured the issues the plan wanted to address."

concert at Pullman Square in of Huntington website."

"From that point forward, Huntington Art Summit. We also had a social media com-The city introduced the plan ponent through sites like

This heavy focus on public opinion led to the plan's slogan, "Many Voices, One Vision." The city of Huntington, incorporated in 1871, has gone through many changes over the last 142 years. After two economic booms and a surprisingly stable economy during the Great Depression, Huntington saw

the 1970s due to urban sprawl and a failing manufacturing industry. However, Huntington transportation, urban renewal has gone through a revival in and historic preservation. the last decade, primarily due to gentrification projects and the city in need of the most the release of 2006's "We Are... Marshall."

Now city planners are looking to the decade ahead.

The plan itself sections the city into 10 districts, each

of vital importance to the to the public with a kick-off Facebook, Twitter and the city a sharp population decline in focusing on various aspects such as housing, economic development, public services,

> Shell said the three areas of attention are Hal Greer Boulevard on Huntington's south side (which serves as the main thoroughfare into the city),

> > See PLAN | Page 5

# Finals week a mix of emotions for students

#### **By ALYSSA SIMON** THE PARTHENON

After a week full of turkey, Black Friday shopping and spending time with family, Marshall University students returned to campus to hit the books with a only a week left to prepare for final exams.

Finals for students will take place Dec. 9-13, with "study day" falling on Dec. 11.

In the past, final exams have taken place during a split week giving students the weekend to study, but this semester students will be able to complete all their finals during a one-week period.

Mike Mellinger, junior accounting major from Saint Albans, W.Va., has mixed feelings about finals week.

"On one hand I feel such a relief because I know this will be the last time I will have to study for the particu

HOLIDAY FOR HEROES Honoring those who won't be home for the holidays



#### **By MASON BEUHRING** THE PARTHENON

Students at Marshall University are honoring soldiers who have given up their own freedoms in order to protect the nation's existence.

In the Memorial Student Center, there is a table set up for students to come and honor soldiers by sending them Christmas and holiday cards.

The opportunity for students to bring Christmas cheer to soldiers continues from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Thursday.

"Christmas is my favorite holiday, I always love the holiday seasons and I appreciate my family and my friends," Braley Berry, sophomore K-6 education major, said. "But, they're [soldiers] not home... they are fighting wars and trying to protect our country, and I believe who fight for my freedom or that they deserve a little bit of holiday cheer sent to them." The event, Holiday For Heroes, is an annual event put on by the Red Cross. Nikki Kinder, senior public relations major and intern with the Red Cross, said she believed it would be a great opportunity for the student body to express their thankfulness to the soldiers' sacrifices during the holidays.

paper and scissors. For students who may be in a rush to get to class and don't have time to create a card, but still would like to honor those who are sacrificing their holidays, may write a message in provided store-bought cards.

Kinder said that this event not only reaches out and touches the lives of the soldiers who read them, but has also heard feedback that the families of those serving appreciate that their loved ones will receive these letters.

"You know I think a lot of times in our life that we don't pay attention to those who contribute to our existence," Shaheed Elhamdani, senior chemistry major, said. "The sad fact is that I don't spend enough time thinking about the people take care of me; whether that be my parents or the soldiers who fight for my life. So when I saw this over here, it was a reminder that it was a time that I could give something back."

lar classes," Mellinger said. "But I'm also worried because there is always that self doubt that you could bomb finals."

Other students have high hopes for finals as long as they give it their all.

Brittany Russell, senior social work major from Charles Town, W.Va., said she couldn't believe she is about to take finals for her last fall semester of undergraduate school.

"I'm feeling pretty good about them," Russell said. "I just have to buckle down and study."

For freshmen students, finals week is a completely new experience and Chris Dudley, engineering major from Charleston, W.Va., cannot wait for the week to over.

"I'm concerned because this is putting a big impact on me keeping my scholarships," Dudley said.

While feelings of anxiety and nerves are common on campus during such an important time Taylor Cathcart, sophomore athletic training major from Charles Town, W.Va., said she hopes to push the feelings of stress and anxiety aside and focus on what she knows.

"Finals are really stressful and draining at the end of the semester when we're doing big projects also but I plan to study hard and do my best," Cathcart said.

Drinko Library will be open 24 hours a day from now until Dec. 12 for students to use to prepare for their exams.

Alyssa Simon can be contacted at simon26@marshall.edu.

PHOTOS BY ANDREA STEELE | THE PARTHENON Students sign and create holiday greeting cards to send overseas to active members of the military inside the Memorial Student Center Tuesday.

The table has a variety of craft supplies ranging from crayons and markers to construction

Students who have already participated in the event are encouraged to come back and make more; there is no limit to the amount of cards a student can make.

Mason Beuhring can be contacted at beuhring@marshall. edu.



# **COEPD** gets grant for Arts & Bots campaign

#### **By PATRICK BREEDEN** THE PARTHENON

Building robots for education sounds like something a computer science major would do, but one professor is helping grade schools bring recycled materials to life in unique ways.

The College of Education and Professional Development received a three-year grant from the National Science Foundation as part of an educational

program called Arts & Bots. The program is designed to teach children how to take ordinary recycled material and turn it into a functioning robot.

Harold Blanco, technology integration specialist for the June Harless Center and COEPD professor, will serve as Marshall's co-principle investigator for the project. He will share a portion of the \$1.5 million grant to bring the program to local schools.

Marshall University will share the grant money with partners Carnegie Mellon University, West Liberty University and Mingo County schools, Blanco said. Each entity has a co-principle investigator. Marshall has worked with CMU over the past three years, and CMU has a branch lab on Marshall's campus.

The grant money will cover all materials and necessary training, Blanco said. Schools will not have to pay any cost to participate in the project, but enrollment is voluntary.

The Arts & Bots campaign was created by CMU's CREATE Lab program. CMU has created similar technology campaigns in the past with Gigapan and WaterBots, Blanco said.

Students in participating West Virginia schools will take recycled materials and place

robotic sensors inside of them, Blanco said. Students will then use software that will allow them to drag and drop various commands for the sensors, bringing the robot to life.

Blanco said the program will promote critical thinking.

"When they present the robots to people, they have to tell a story," Blanco said. "That

See CAMPAIGN | Page 5

## 273495 MARSHALL CAREER SERVICES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2013 | THE PARTHENON MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

# US students lag behind in reading, science, math

#### **Bv SHAN LI**

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LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

Fifteen-year-old students in the U.S. lag behind many countries around the world when it comes to reading, science and math, according to test results released Tuesday.

The scores, which place the U.S. in the middle of the global pack, showed little change from American students who have taken the test over the past decade.

Asian countries including South Korean, Japan and Singapore. The Chinese city of Shanghai scored the highest average scores in each subject matter.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development administered the exams to 15-year-old students in more than 60 nations and school systems under the Program for International Student Assessment, known as PISA. About 6,000 At the top of the rankings are students in the U.S. took the test.

The test scores are viewed by some policymakers and analysts as an indicator of future economic competitiveness in the world and also an indication that spending in education could be more wisely invested.

The United States — which shells out about \$115,000 per student is ranked fifth in spending behind Austria, Luxembourg, Norway and Switzerland, the results show. Howthe Slovak Republic, which spends about \$53,000 per student.

U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan slammed America's performance as "a picture of educational stagnation."

He told The Associated Press that the U.S. must "invest in early education, raise academic standards, make college affordable and do more to recruit and retain top-notch educators." In reading, the United States ever, it scores roughly the same as ranked 17th in the world, about

equal with countries such as France and Great Britain. American students ranked 21st in science with scores on par with Italy and Portugal. In math, however, the U.S. lags behind at 26th place.

The results show that while U.S. scores remain little changed, other countries such as Poland and Ireland have jumped ahead in recent years. Even Vietnam, a developing nation, outpaced the U.S. in math and science.



Former American Idol star Bo Bice sings Tuesday with Blood, Sweat & Tears at the Keith Albee Performing Arts Center.

LEXI BROWNING | THE PARTHENON

# Bo Bice rocks the Keith Albee with Blood, Sweat & Tears

**Twin Towers** to turn 45 in 2014

#### **By COLTON JEFFRIES** THE PARTHENON

Marshall University is a place that is rich in history. If a student asks a question to the right person, checks out the right book or discovers the right thing in Morrow Library, they could uncover countless things about the university that they've never thought about. But not many students know that some of the most historical buildings on Marshall's campus are the buildings that some of the students call home, the Twin Towers.

Standing 15 stories high above the rest of Marshall's campus, Twin Towers are two of the most distinctive buildings because they are usually the first two buildings that come into view when approaching campus, as they can be seen from Pullman Square, Big

## **By ZACH HAUGHT**

THE PARTHENON

Blood, Sweat & Tears performed a night of classic hits and holiday music Tuesday at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center.

Bo Bice, former American Idol contestant and new lead vocalist, led the group through the band's diverse discography for an enthusiastic audience.

The audience was filled with several longtime fans hoping to hear the band's hits from the '60s and

'70s. Among these fans was Randy Parker, 58, of Grayson, Ky.

"I'd like to hear some new stuff too with Bo Bice, but he can't replace David Clayton-Thomas," Parker said. "He's the cornerstone of the band."

Despite being unfamiliar with Bice, Parker said he was expecting a solid show.

"I like brass bands, so this should be a good one," Parker said.

Peter and Marta Ottaviano of Huntington were also looking forward to hearing old hits such as "Spinning Wheel." The two were also looking forward to seeing how the orchestra complemented the band.

"I'm looking forward to that," Peter said. "A 40-piece orchestra, that's a pretty big orchestra."

The band opened the show with its popular cover of The Beatles' song, "Got to Get You into My Life."

Blood, Sweat & Tears entertained the audience by seamlessly transitioning between blues, funk and jazz, as well as incorporating holiday music into the mix.

After a brief intermission, the band returned to the stage with a 40-piece orchestra. The orchestra created a dramatic atmosphere before transitioning into a blues song, giving the nine-piece band even more depth.

The Marshall Artists Series will return for its spring season Jan. 13 with the Vienna Concert-Verein Orchestra at the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center.

Zach Haught can be contacted at haught36@marshall.edu.

Sandy Superstore Arena and even the bridge on Route 52. They have the title of the biggest dorm buildings, as well as being the third oldest dorm buildings still in use at Marshall, behind Holderby and Buskirk halls respectively. According to John Yuan, the director of housing and residence life, the buildings are almost iconic to the campus. "The buildings have a com-

manding presence on campus," Yuan said.

Breaking ground in 1966, construction of the Twin Towers didn't begin until 1967. The buildings came to fruition over concerns that there would not be enough housing for students who wished to live on campus.

"The purpose of towered dorm buildings in colleges across the United States are to get as many students into as small of a space as possible, I know there is a dorm at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst that is 21 stories tall that was built during World War II to house returning veterans," Yuan said.

The buildings were completed and ready to be moved in to in 1969. Each building would be later given a plaque that was dedicated to those who died in the Marshall football team plane crash in 1970.

From then on, Twin Towers East became the main dorms for freshmen until the freshmen dorm buildings were completed in the 2000s.

The two buildings feature double rooms and, if a student wants to pay a little extra, there are single rooms available.

Over the years, Marshall has set up numerous ways for students to better connect with one another, and make what could be a stressful experience for them into a more enjoyable one.

#### See TWIN TOWERS | Page 5

# **Colleges test new tactics for remedial math**

#### **By JOHN KEILMAN**

CHICAGO TRIBUNE (MCT)

Unlike a lot of people her age, 20-year-old Kelsey Pearsall-Brandon of Lake in the Hills, Ill., has a clear career goal. She wants to be a police officer. But something is standing in her way: -24 equals 5x plus 1 < 6

That was a problem put to her recently in a remedial algebra class at Elgin Community College. The class cost more than \$400, and she must pass it to earn a degree that could boost her job prospects.

Does she think she'll use algebra as a cop? "Not really," she said. "I gotta catch the criminal. I'm not going to be finding X."

That sounds like the timeworn complaint of many struggling undergraduates. But with more than half of American college students enrolled in remedial classes, which consume more than \$3 billion in yearly tuition and government support yet rarely lead to graduation, experts are starting to take it seriously.

Math, the subject that most often holds students back, is coming under heaviest scrutiny. Some researchers and teachers are calling for a fundamental redesign of the subject in community college, saying algebra-heavy requirements are often irrelevant to students' career plans, while the statistics and quantitative reasoning they do need goes untaught.

This disconnect, they say, leaves many students trapped, forced to spend money on classes that don't count toward degrees and greatly increasing the odds that they will drop out.

"Remedial mathematics is the graveyard," said Anthony Bryk of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. "This is where aspirations go to die. If you can't get through this, you can't go on to career opportunities."

That has led some Illinois community colleges to experiment with a new model that takes a real-world approach, giving students a chance to speed through remedial math by tackling practical problems instead of theoretical ones.

It's known as "math literacy," and it's designed to help students build the skills they'll need to succeed in nontechnical careers, while



ADAM WOLFFBRANDT | CHICAGO TRIBUNE (MCT)

Rebeka Sendroiu works on math problems during the Intermediate Algebra class at Oakton Community College, Oct. 11, 2013, in Des Plaines, Ill. Sendroiu said the class was required for her major to be an ultrasound technician.

speeding past the skills they'll likely never use.

"We're not saying, 'Let's reduce standards.' We're saying, 'Let's change the way we teach (them),' " said Kathy Almy, a professor at Rockford's Rock Valley College who has written a math literacy textbook.

Illinois students must take only three years of high school math, and many skip the subject their senior year. That rust shows up when they take college placement tests and are sent to the remedial level.

See MATH | Page 5

# SPORTS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2013 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

# **Taliaferro: From walk-on to workhorse**

#### **By WILL VANCE** SPORTS EDITOR

offense featured a trio of freshman in its running attack in that finished the season No. 9 2012, few would have said in total yards, being the only that the leading rusher in 2013 skill position player besides would be a redshirt senior. receiver Tommy Shuler and Much less a walk-on, redshirt tight end Gator Hoskins to senior that cost the Thundering Herd a bowl game.

Yet on Friday redshirt senior running back Essray Taliaferro capped off a terrific season by becoming the first Marshall rusher to break the 1,000-yard plateau since Darius Marshall in 2009.

Taliaferro finished his senior season with 1,006 rushing yards, averaging 5.4 yards per carry and scoring nine touchdowns. He also kept negative yardage plays to a minimum, losing only 21 yards all season, and had five 100-yard games including three in a row against MTSU, Southern Miss and UAB.

This kind of success for the Washington, D.C., native would have been difficult to foresee just a year ago.

Taliaferro finished the 2012 season rushing for 130 yards and a touchdown against ECU, but gave up a fumble in the games second overtime that led to ECU's final score, eliminating the Herd from bowl eligibility at 5-7. Taliaferro said that the mistake did not shake his confidence, but rather motivated him to get better.

"In the back of my head, I always felt that given the opportunity I could make plays and help produce for this team and give us a chance to win," Taliaferro said bewhat stood out to me, so all

surprised even him. As the against ECU in perhaps the 2013 season went on Talia-After the Thundering Herd ferro became a mainstay of the Thundering Herd offense start all 12 regular season games.

> Head coach Doc Holliday said that Taliaferro's wellrounded skills have made him an important part of the offense.

"He's our most complete back right now," Holliday said of Taliaferro, "as far as picking up blitzes and protections and seeing the right creases and all of those kind of things."

Taliaferro was not the only Herd rusher to have success in 2013. Sophomores Steward Butler and Kevin Grooms teamed up with Taliaferro to produce the No. 21 rushing attack in the nation behind an offensive line that played exceptionally well.

Marshall offensive line coach Alex Mirobal said that his lineman derive their tenacity and physicality from Taliaferro.

"You don't want offensive lineman who say 'hey coach, let's throw the ball,' you want lineman who want to run the ball and that's our mindset, and we get a lot of that from Taliaferro," Mirobal said. "He's physical, fast enough but not fast, but if he has a choice he's going to try to run through you and not around and we feed off that as a group."

"It's a typical chicken-orthe-egg," Mirobal said, "is it fore the season began. "I had the offensive line that makes that crucial fumble and that's the running back or the running back that makes the off-season I was motivated offensive line? I'm a big benot to put my team in that po- liever that the running back brings the attitude to the O-A strong showing dur- line and not the other way ing training camp earned around, believe it or not, and Taliaferro broke 1,000 yards

most important game for the Herd since 2002, winning the Conference USA East Division and earning a spot in the conference championship. For Taliaferro the broken plateau is

"It's definitely a great individual accomplishment to go along with the team accomplishment we got by winning the East," Taliaferro said after the 59-28 victory. "I'm definitely proud of myself and thankful for the O-line and for [Marshall offensive coordinator Bill] Legg for trusting me enough to be in this position."

Taliaferro and the Thundering Herd will be able to add to their successful season Saturday at noon when they take on the Rice Owl's in Houston for the C-USA Championship.

Will Vance can be contacted at vance162@marshall.edu.

just icing on the cake.

PHOTOS BY RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

TOP: Redshirt senior running back Essray Taliaferro picks up yardage during a rain-soaked game against Virginia



+

sition again."

Taliaferro being named a Taliaferro is a physical guy." team captain for the Herd's first game, a decision that with a 161-yard performance



Tech Sept. 21. Taliaterro gained 116 yards against the Hokies in the 29-21 loss, the first of his five games with 100 or more yards on the season.

LEFT: Taliaferro acknowledges the crowd during his announcement during the Herd's Senior Day against ECU on Friday. Taliaferro carried the ball 26 times for 162 yards against the Pirates in his final home game.

# **Thompson honored after** big game against ECU

#### HERDZONE.COM

Coming off his spectacular performance in Friday's 59-28 East Division-clinching win over East Carolina, it's no surprise that Marshall defensive end Gary Thompson took home a couple of honors Monday.

Thompson picked off two passes in the game, returning the second for a five-yard touchdown, to go with a pass breakup and two tackles. For his efforts, the redshirt freshman was named National Defensive Lineman of the Week by the College Football Performance Awards and then Conference USA Defensive Player of the Week by the league office.

On the season, Thompson has 25 tackles, five tackles for loss, three sacks, two interceptions, four pass breakups, two fumble recoveries and one forced fumble.

The Herd (9-3 overall, 7-1 C-USA) travels to Rice (9-3, 7-1) for Saturday's league title game, which is scheduled for a 12:01 p.m. ET/11:01 a.m. CT kick, and will air on ESPN2 with Joe Tessitore, Matt Millen and Maria Taylor on the call.



Freshman lineman Gary Thompson (59) comes away from the pile with his first interception against ECU Friday at Joan C. Edwards Stadium.

# Women's basketball falls to EKU Colonels, 64-55

#### THE PARTHENON

Marshall Thun-The Herd women's dering basketball team (2-4) fell at home Wednesday night against the Eastern Kentucky Colonels (4-5), 64-55.

The Thundering Herd got off to a fast start and led the game 31-23 at halftime, but the 44.8 percent shooting in the second half spurred the Colonels to a comeback, outscoring the Herd 41-24 after halftime. The Herd did not help its own cause in the second half, allowing the Colonels to score 16 points off of turnovers.

Junior transfer Leah Scott paced the Herd with 16

points, including 8-of-9 free throw attempts, with junior Chukwuka Ezeigbo being the only other Herd player to reach double-digit points with 12. Ezeigbo also led the Herd in rebounds with eight, seven offensive.

The Colonel's Marie Carpenter led all scorers with 29 points, including 4-of-9 from three-point range and 7-of-8 free throws. Shelley Harper chipped in 10 points as well as eight rebounds.

The Thundering Herd will continue its six game home stand Saturday against Davis and Elkins Saturday at 1 p.m. in the Cam Henderson Center.

272724 **MU SCHOOL OF NURSING** PARTHENON 2 x 3.0

tors) drones about the size of tween Amazon's dream and busy day. Amazon claims an mals in a negative way. Expect a a golden retriever will fly packages up to five pounds from an reality is the Federal Aviation average of over 306 orders good deal of these drones to be Amazon warehouse directly to Commission. While in most PER SECOND were placed on fished out of trees and power the doorsteps of the purchaser. cases helicopters are given its site during Cyber Monday lines before they're perfected. Amazon claims delivery will more leeway in terms of where and if even .5 percent of those The fact being: they're imtake an astonishing 30 minutes they may fly and land in popuorders requested Prime Air, practical for the near future. or less and plans to make this lated areas. the floodgates Marshall students may be able that would equal roughly 915 to order dentures and oxygen service available in 2015. being opened by commercial drones taking off per minute. drones operating in cities will While this is super cool and That cluster of machines tanks via drone, but not Play-Station 4 games in 2015. it's obvious drones are going likely bring about specific leads to another limitation: THE COLUMBUS DESPATCH mazon PRAISE ALLAH! THE TWILIGHT; BREAKING DAWN, PART 2" BW-RAY I ORDERED IS FINALLY HERE! AL-QAIDA TRAINING

EDITORIAL -

**Delivery drones not yet on the horizon** 

### MCT CAMPUS

## **Online Polls** YOU CAN BE HERD

Where is your favorite place to study for finals?	How many wins do you expect from Marshall's men's basketball team?	
Residence halls	More than 20	22%
The library	15 to 20	41%
Starbucks	Fewer than 15	37%

Voice your opinion. It is your right. Answer our poll at www.marshallparthenon.com or tweet us your answer at @MUParthenon.

## — COLUMN —— A third term? Let's rethink that amendment

#### By DAN K. THOMASSON MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE (MCT)

well served these days or perhaps ever was by limiting the terms of its chief executive. It seemed like a good idea at the time following Franklin D. Roosevelt's four elections to the presidency, but the negatives, I believe, have come to outweigh the positives.

That doesn't mean that I am in favor of extending the current president's tenure in the Oval Office or for that matter any particular future occupant. It merely says that after so many years of watching the second term become far less productive than it might, I'm convinced lame ducks should be limited to the dinner table.

The reasons are relatively simple. The mere possibility that a president has the option of running for a third term relieves his operational impotency in the second when both his opponents and his allies regard him with far less respect politically, especially during the final two years. The muscle needed to bring about results has atrophied even if the master of the White House is considered a strong caretaker. Barack Obama is a perfect example. His chances of accomplishing much more than straightening out the mess in his one domestic initiative, the Affordable Care Act if that amendment. After all, hadn't is even possible, already are the founders eschewed this slim with such issues as tax and immigration reform and controlling runaway entitlements probably not likely. So in his case, the deficiencies in his ability to govern have begun a year early, and it would take an election miracle a year from now to give him the majorities needed in Congress, including recapturing the House and preserving, if not expanding control of the Senate, to change the outlook. Under the current circumstance that seems not only remote but slipping away with each new kerfuffle on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Just the right to run for a third term is all that is needed to keep off balance the po-I'm not so sure the nation is litical sharks that circle ever closer with utter disregard. Actually, as any high school civics student knows, before FDR no president had opted for the possibility of spending 12 years let alone 16 in such a demanding job. Several considered it but were dissuaded. But it was always out there for the aspiring wannabe successors to contemplate before stepping on the chief's toes.

> Roosevelt's decision came as the nation faced two of its worst storms, the greatest depression in its history and a global conflagration that threatened world freedom, including ours.

"Changing horses in midstream," as FDR's 1940 slogan warned, was a bad idea and the country was comfortable with that even though those in the know realized that the president was in terrible physical shape beyond the crippling effects of polio. His blood pressure was off the charts and his physicians had no way of treating it beyond diet and exercise and reduction of stress, none of which were probable. Add to that the fact that he was a chain smoker and a lover of martinis, and the miracle was that he survived to run again in 1944. It is no wonder that reaction to such an unprecedented tenure finally produced the term-limiting constitutional sort of kingly approach to governance? Yes, but they also put no limits on the length of stay realizing that might produce a less effective presidency. They believed that most presidents would not want much longer than a second term as did George Washington, whose refusal to run again set the standard. Both Andrew Jackson and Ulysses S. Grant thought about it but demurred. The voters should be the ultimate determiner of third term viability. The probability is low that many incumbents would accept, even the most charismatic.

Online shopping juggerto play a much greater domestic role in the future. the future isn't quite yet. Amazon Prime Air has got a mountain of hoops to jump through legally The concept is as simple as it and logistically before Americans can order an iPhone as fast as a pizza.

The biggest obstacle be-

regulation of low-flying unmanned drones. No price has been announced regarding the cost of an Amazon Prime Air delivery, but the price is not likely to deter enough shoppers to prevent a scenario of hundreds of drones fluttering through major cities on a

the logistics. Amazon would have to create and maintain hundreds if not thousands of these things, for one. The Artificial Intelligence may not all be there yet, meaning nothing is stopping a drone from landing in an unfortunate place or encountering humans and ani-



## COLUMN Fighting the good fight in Russia

#### **By NATALIA TAUBINA**

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naut Amazon revealed Sunday

probably the most gimmicky

mode of delivery since the vac-

uum tube: Amazon Prime Air.

is futuristic: aerial octocopter

(helicopters utilizing eight ro-

LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

I recently found myself in a Moscow court explaining why the civil rights group I run would not be registering as a "foreign agent," despite being ordered to do so by prosecutors.

According to Russia's pernicious "foreign agent" law, which President Vladimir Putin rammed through the parliament in 2012, any advocacy group that receives foreign funding and engages in political activity must apply to be included in a special registry of foreign agents. The definition of "political activity" is so broad that it could cover any work in defense of the public interest.

Why won't our group, Public Verdict, register? Because

we aren't "foreign agents," a term with a single, unambiguous meaning in Russia: a spy, a traitor to the Motherland.

But we are taking a risk. Under the law, if an organization refuses to register, the group may face heavy fines (up to \$17,000) and its activities may be suspended. As director, I could go to prison for two vears.

Public Verdict is not alone, though. Russian civil society organizations have presented a united front against a law meant to demonize and silence them. Not a single rights group agreed to stigmatize itself by adopting the shameful and false label of foreign agent, and all the leading nongovernmental organizations have made strong public statements condemning the law.

But the government hasn't backed down. This spring. prosecutors throughout Russia conducted punitive and aggressive inspections of hundreds of organizations, issuing dozens of warnings along with direct orders to register within 30 days.

Public Verdict received such an order: Either stop working or register as agents. We believe that this is fundamentally wrong. For 10 years we have been helping victims of abuse by law enforcement officers, handling more than 500 cases and winning more than 100 in court. More than 100 law enforcement officers have been punished for torture and other crimes, and dozens of torture victims have benefited from our psychological rehabilitation program.

Police torture and impunity for abuse of power are systemic problems in Russia. So, in addition to handling individual cases, we also advocate for comprehensive law enforcement reform.

Most of our cases go like this: A man is arrested and taken to a police station, where he is beaten and tortured. Mostly, police officials torture to force a confession, but sometimes they do it simply to project power. Next, more often than not, the man is released or taken away in an ambulance. But because government law enforcers typically don't aggressively pursue torture complaints, our lawyers must do the bulk of the investigative work, interviewing witnesses and building evidence.

# The Parthenon

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Monday through Friday during the regular semester and Thursday during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

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> Word and sent as an attachment. Longer letters may be used as guest columns at the editor's discretion. Guest col-

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tor at 300 words or fewer. They

must be saved in Microsoft

umn status will not be given at

the author's request. All letters

letters that are posted on The Parthenon website, www.marshallparthenon.com, can be printed at the discretion of the editors.

**GUIDELINES FOR SENDING LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** 

The opinions expressed in the columns and letters do not necessarily represent the views of The Parthenon staff.

Please send news releases to the editors at parthenon@ marshall.edu. Please keep in mind, letters are printed based on timeliness, newsworthiness and space.

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# Afghans describe relatives' deaths in drone strike

#### **By DAVID ZUCCHINO** LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

Miya Jan was filling potholes on the rutted trail that leads to his village in rugged eastern Afghanistan when he heard the whine of a drone aircraft overhead.

The sunburned 28-year-old farmer looked up and saw a gray, narrow-winged drone circling the village. A few minutes later, he said, it fired a missile that landed with a tremendous thud across a stony ridge line.

Jan ran to the explosion site and recognized the burning frame of his cousin's blue pickup truck. Inside, he said, he saw blackened shapes \_ people whose torsos had been sheared off. He recognized the smoking remains of his brother, his brother's wife and their 18-month-old son. Jan and other villagers say 14 people were killed in the attack; U.S. and Afghan officials place the toll at 11.

"There were pieces of my family all over the road," said Jan, recalling the deadly Sept. 7 late afternoon incident in an

interview last week. "I picked up those pieces from the road and from the truck and wrapped them in a sheet to bury them.

"Do the American people want to spend their money this way, on drones that kill our women and children?" he asked.

The impact of such strikes is felt far beyond the dark escarpments of Kunar province. The grief and rage of Jan and his relatives help explain the approval among some Afghans of President Hamid Karzai's thus far non-negotiable demand that civilian casualties cease if he is to sign a proposed 10-year security agreement with the U.S.

Karzai responded to the Kunar attack by accusing the United States of recklessness and callous disregard for innocent Afghans. After a child died in a drone strike Thursday in southern Afghanistan, Karzai suggested the attack had ended any chance of an accord.

Civilian deaths at the hands of U.S. forces have long poisoned Karzai's relationship with the United States. That tension has hardened into a vise that could abruptly end America's 12-year, multibillion-dollar investment in Afghanistan, despite a drop in civilian casualties due to new safeguards by foreign forces.

Civilian deaths in neighboring Pakistan blamed on the CIA's covert drone program there have elicited far more publicity than drone operations by the U.S. military in Afghanistan. Many Americans are not aware that dozens of armed drones fly over Afghanistan every day, part of the U.S.-led NATO coalition's 300 to 350 daily aircraft sorties.

The missile that turned the pickup truck into an inferno is symbolic of the mistrust between Karzai and his erstwhile American patrons. As is often the case, the identities of the victims are shrouded in doubt in a nation where the difference between an insurgent and a civilian is measured in degrees.

In such cases as Thursday's airstrike, both insurgents and civilians were said to be killed. The U.S. military typically

responds by promising an investigation. Meanwhile, Karzai fans outrage with blistering denunciations of U.S. motives.

After the Sept. 7 attack in the village of Ganbir, the coalition initially said the airstrike killed "10 enemy forces" and emphasized that there were "no signs of civilians in the vicinity."

On Saturday, Col. Jane Crichton, director of public affairs for NATO's International Security Assistance Force, said a preliminary investigation had found that although the airstrike killed eight insurgents, "there were, unfortunately, believed to be three civilian casualties," for which the ISAF expressed "deep regret."

U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Ken Wilsbach, who commands air operations in Afghanistan, said, "Our goal is to eradicate civilian casualties, but that is an incredibly difficult task when the enemy is intermixed with the civilian population. We're here to help the Afghan population, and there is absolutely zero intent to harm civilians."

## classes at two campuses, but most area community colleges

### PLAN Continued from Page 1

neighborhood along the Third Avenue and Fifth Avenue between 22nd Street and 24th Street and Old Central City on West 14th Street.

Also important is the continuing renovation in and around Marshall University's

campus, the most discernible aspect of which is the Main Corridor Project. Shell said the greater goal of the project goes beyond mere physical improvements of that area.

"We want to better connect Marshall with downtown, but looking beyond that is taking those streetscape improvements and encouraging those storefronts to better serve students in the downtown population," Shell said. "Another thing we are discussing has to do with how to encourage quality student housing around Marshall University. As a community

### CAMPAIGN Continued from Page 1

integrates critical thinking. They have to think, 'What do I do about this?' We tell them how to make a robot, but what you do with it is your own critical thinking."

Robot building can take up to a week to learn, Blanco said. Teachers can be trained within three days.

Blanco said his job in the marshall.edu.

we want to make sure that housing not only serves the students, but also forms a nice fit with downtown Huntington and the Marshall campus."

Furthering that connection with Marshall is the help provided by interns to move Plan 2025 forward, such as senior print iournalism major Samuel Speciale, who was responsible for drafting the plan. Even Shell began working in the office as an intern before becoming planner in 2012.

Shell said that students who wished to voice their opinions on the plan are welcome to attend a council meeting at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9 in the city council chambers located at 800 Fifth Ave. The plan itself can be viewed at cityofhuntington. com/plan2025.

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project is to train teachers for this program. He also wants to train future educators from Marshall so they can continue teaching art and robotics.

It is important for the program is to reach out to poor schools in rural West Virginia to bring the project to students who otherwise couldn't participate, Blanco said.

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### MATH **Continued from Page 2**

The lowest scorers start with basic arithmetic and must work

movement aims to address. The idea, based on research by the American Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges, took shape about four years ago, with Almy and her colleague Heather Foes taking the lead in Illinois.

That's what the math literacy an equation with parentheses, brackets and decimals.

"Would algebra make it eas-Carnegie Foundation and the ier?" Almy asked. "If it does,

are trying out math literacy have yet to use the approach.

through intermediate algebra, a sequence that can require three or more classes. None counts toward graduation.

Experts say the expense and frustration often leads students to abandon school: Complete College America, a nonprofit that advocates for changes in the remediation system, says that only 14 percent of Illinois community college students who take remedial classes graduate in three years.

Chicago-area colleges have responded by coming up with new ways to help students navigate algebra, ranging from pre-placement refresher courses to in-class tutoring and computerized "modules" that home in on weak areas.

But the math itself is usually the same as it has always been.

"I took all this in high school," said Rebeka Sendroiu, an aspiring ultrasound technician from Lincolnwood who was working on algebra word problems at Oakton Community College. "I don't think I should be taking it again, but it's a requirement."

Traditional math classes begin with theory and proceed to problems, but Almy and Foes designed a one-semester course that works in reverse: Teachers give students realworld questions — figuring out how an Internet video goes viral, for example, or evaluating a scientific claim about global warming — and then show them how to use math to find the answers.

Almy said students who struggle with math respond to practicality. Consider a problem her class took up: You go to a restaurant's 25-cent wing night with a \$20 bill. After buying a \$5 pitcher of beer, how many wings can you get?

The class had no trouble with that answer -60 – but the problem grew steadily more difficult as Almy added factors like side dishes, tax and tip, eventually spawning

try it.

Verenice Sandoval, 18, a business major who aspires to open her own photography studio, said she appreciated the class's method.

"What's different about this course is that it applies more to real life, so we're doing a lot more with something we'll actually use compared to algebra class in high school, where we're just working with formulas," she said. "In some situations it's really helpful because it seems more understandable."

Almy said the course allows students to complete their remedial math requirement in one semester, rather than two or three. Its overall passing rate of roughly 65 percent is about the same as other remedial math classes at the college, though there are no good data yet to indicate whether students who take it are more likely to get their degrees.

The City Colleges of Chicago, where 88 percent of students test into remedial math,

Some professors doubt it will be a cure-all, noting that many students come in with profound weaknesses in basic arithmetic and even reading. And the class won't be enough for those with majors in science or technology.

Oakton math teacher Nancy Ressler said that students reduce their options by skipping the traditional math pathway.

"Taking time to achieve the solution, thinking and rethinking — those are fine traits," she said via email. "A refined mind is respected. It doesn't lose value as will the most expensive (gadget)."

But math literacy appears bound to catch on - "Eventually we'll have most if not all colleges doing this," said Brian Durham of the Illinois Community College Board and Almy said she hoped the proliferation will inject a note of realism.

Traditional math education, she said, "treats all students like they want to become doctors. Well, not everyone's going to be a doctor."

The Parthenon on Twitter! @MUParthenon

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### TWIN TOWERS **Continued from Page 2**

"They're grouped together in what can be called the 'first year experience,' and the goal of that is to have the students live together, interact together and interact with faculty as well," Yuan said.

Residents of the Twin Towers also have the benefit of being just steps away from a food source, as both towers are connected together in the middle by the Towers Marketplace, the smaller of the two dining halls now in use. Opened in the 1990s, the dining hall recently went under a

major renovation in the summer of 2011.

The Twin Towers also have their share of myths and rumors about that might be inside of the building and even some tales of ghosts.

The most prevalent myth is the myth that when the towers were built, there were a pattern of lighter colored bricks on one wall on the outside of Twin Towers East that looked like the logo for West Virginia University, put there by one of the builders as a joke. The bricks have since been painted over, so there isn't really a way of knowing if that story is true or not. The residents' opinions of

the buildings also vary greatly. It seems like many students are 50-50 with their opinion of the building, as evidenced by Marshall sophomore athletic training major Dakota Hall.

"There are several good things about towers, like how we have access to a kitchen and we can have access to computers with printers without having to walk all the way to the library. But at the same time there are some bad things as well, like how some floors have problems with pests and how the building just feels dated," said Hall.

Although the reputation of the buildings has fallen quite

a bit due to the completion of the Freshmen Dorms, there are some plans in place to do some renovations to the towers, including plans to add private bathrooms and showers to the rooms, which is sure to catch some residents' interest.

"We're trying to modernize the towers as much as possible given that they are quite aged buildings. We're trying to add basic aesthetic enhancements as well as give life improvements that we hope students will like," Yuan said.

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page designed and edited by CODI MOHR mohr13@marshall.edu

\*Life! WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2013 | THE PARTHENON

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## By ALISON WICKLINE THE PARTHENON

Alan Gould has been an influential part of Marshall University for more than 40 years. With a legacy that keeps growing, Gould continues to cement his place as a Marshall mainstay.

The Herald Dispatch named him one of the top 50 influential people in the tri-state during the 20th century. He has a place on the Greater Huntington Wall of Fame. Between August 1990 and 1991, he served as interim president of Marshall. He has worked as a professor, department chair, dean of the college of liberal arts, and the list goes on and on.

"It is difficult to imagine a legacy as committed to Marshall University as that of Alan Gould," said Jeffrey L. Powell, professor in the department of philosophy and the 2013-2014 Distinguished John Deaver Drinko Academy Fellow. "I find a true pleasure in his presence."

Gould was born in Huntington August 2, 1938. His first memories, however, are of Washington D.C. because his father was stationed at a naval yard there during World War II. After the war, Gould's parents decided to leave the highly populated metropolitan area of D.C., and moved back to Huntington. Gould attended high school in Huntington and after that, enrolled in Marshall. He earned his bachelor's degree and master's degree in history from Marshall, and then went to West Virginia University for his Ph. D. in history. While working on his dissertation, Gould moved to Washington D.C., and worked as a Capitol Hill policeman for a short time. He later got a position at the District of Columbia Teachers College, but an offer from Marshall's Department of History brought Gould and his wife back to Huntington.

Gould has been married to Mary Nell since 1965. He has three children Adam, Charles and Christopher.

Gould is quite possibly one of the most interesting men at Marshall. At a time when most people would be seeking retirement and relaxation, Gould is content to be here, on Marshall's campus, making things happen. He currently serves as the executive director of The John Deaver Drinko Academy, which he said he thoroughly enjoys.

He sat down with The Parthenon recently to answer questions about Marshall, education, and his life.

Q: Out of all the people you have met over

A: Wow, well I've been involved in a lot of different things, so it's very difficult for me to distinguish them. They're all varied, but they're all something I'm proud of. Here at Marshall, I'm really proud of the metro fee I worked to establish for students in the tri-state. Another program I helped create was SCORES. It was a way for us to show appreciation for men and women in academics, because we usually focus on sports and give them all the attention.

Q: What is it about education that interests you and has kept you working in it for so long?

A: Students. No matter the job I've held, I've always tried to teach a class or two outside of my normal job for a couple of reasons. One, it was enjoyable, I love working with students. Two, it kept me current in my field. And also, it helped me remember what it's like to be in a classroom. Sometimes when you become an administrator, you tend to find a division between the classroom and administration, so I've always tried to fight against that.

Q: What do you enjoy doing most?

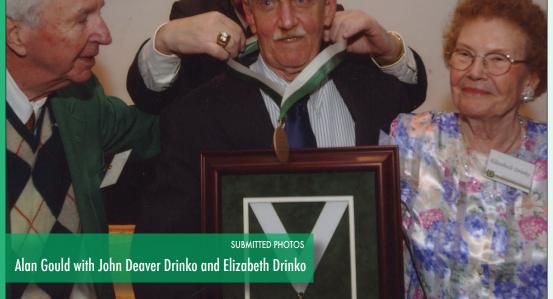
A: Reading and travel. I read a lot of biographies and works dealing with various civilizations and how they rise and fall. As far as travel, I've been to Tahiti and China, both Beijing and Xi'an. I got to travel on the Yangtze River and see the Great Wall while I was there. I've been to Russia and Romania too. I've been all over really.

Q: If not yourself, who would you like to be?

A: I'd like to be somebody like Socrates, mainly as a teacher. He was really as much a teacher as a philosopher, and he had some great students. I wouldn't want to end up like him drinking hemlock poison, but I like the concept.

Q: What event in history do you most admire? A: The tearing down of the Berlin Wall, definitely. It represents so many things, more than just tearing down a wall. It showed that suppression cannot suppress. It can delay, it can distort but it can never destroy free will and the human desire to do better. It's symbolic not just of the unification of Germany, and not just the fall of what Reagan called the "evil empire," but of something far greater and more profound. And that is the indomitable will, collectively and individually, of the human experience.

Q: What is your motto?



years, who is the most memorable?

A: As far as most noteworthy, it would have to be John Fitzgerald Kennedy. I met him, his brother Bobby, and his wife Jackie. I became actively engaged in his campaign in West Virginia, and they really campaigned hard here. So after the campaign, they had a victory dinner at The Frederick Hotel downtown...as a campaign worker though, I had to stay back close to the kitchen. But low and behold, the kitchen doors opened, and out came JFK. He grabbed my hand, shook it, and said "Alan, I'm so glad that you're here and you worked for me, thank you very much."

Q: Tell me about a project or accomplishment in your life that you consider as the most significant?

A: Veritas et gravitas. It means truth and weightiness, or responsibility. That's a good one. It doesn't mean that you ever get there because we may never know what is true, but it's the quest for it. Responsibility is sometimes an inconvenience, but it's too important to ignore.

0: If you could give a small piece of advice to students, what would it be?

A: You must learn to open yourself up to other experiences, even things that you feel or you know you may not like or be comfortable with. Put yourself in positions where you're not the majority and you have to move outside your comfort zone. Learn and make a conscious effort to interact with people who are very different from you.

Alison Wickline can be contacted at wickline19@live.marshall.edu.



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### **EDITORS' PICKS: YEAR'S BEST TOP 6 MOST AWKWARD MOMENTS OF 2013**

**1. MILEY CYRUS** because she's just being Miley. From twerking at the VMA's to dying her eyebrows into nonexistence, Miley made us dorsement deals... all feel awkward this year.

the panic that followed. We can all admit, it was weird, especially CNN's "America Shuts Down."

3. PAULA DEEN: The Queen of Butter admitted to using the n-word leading to the fallout of her en-

4. JULIANNE HOUGH dressed as 2. GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN and "Crazy Eyes" from the Netflix series "Orange is the New Black," blackface included. Terrifying and awkward.

5. GERMANY CATCHES THE NSA SPYING: And we're only sorry we got caught.

6. BOUND 2: As if Kanye West straddling a motorcycle and naked Kim Kardashian in the music video for "Bound 2" wasn't uncomfortable enough, James Franco and Seth Rogan's version takes awkward to a new level.

